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STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL'S REMARKS DAMAGE RELATIONS

PY111816Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 11 Aug 78 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "It's Argentina's Business]

[Text] Relations between the governments of the United States and those of Argentina have generally been poor, but they have rarely been as strained as they are now. The comments of Miss Patricia Derian, the State Department's Office of Human Rights chief, are certain to make them even worse. What could have been a fruitful relationship between two administrations that may have more in common than either suspect, has already degenerated into a slinging match, with cries of "torturer" being met by cries of "abortionist," as though the respective governments actively encouraged the behaviour the other finds obnoxious.

It is possible to dispute Miss Derian's contention that torture is applied "systematically" here or that there has been no improvement at all in the human rights' climate. It is easy to be outraged at the insolence of a foreign official levelling such damaging charges at this country. And it is tempting to point out that the United States' own record on human rights is far from spotless, that the situation in Cuba and other countries where the abuse of human rights is a direct consequence of the official philosophy is far worse than in those countries where human rights have been abused in a temporary situation created by brutal terrorists.

But the vital argument over human rights should certainly not be carried out on an infantile level, with "political prisoners" and "Pilar" being countered with "Indians," "racism," "Hiroshima," and "Martin Luther King." And it should not be allowed to be drowned out by thunderous declarations of national pride, however justifiable that pride may be. What happens in Argentina is basically an Argentine problem and it must be solved by Argentines in Argentina if the country is to make the progress the government wants in the direction it wants. Praise or blame from Washington, other Western capitals, or the communists are irrelevant, and serve only to harden hearts and distract eyes from what is really happening and what can really be done to improve matters.

It is, tragically, impossible to deny that torture is widely used in Argentina; efforts to suppress it have been too few and too ineffective. It is also impossible to deny that large numbers of people have been held in jail for an unconscionable length of time without being charged, let alone tried. No satisfactory explanation has yet been given for the disappearance of thousands of people. Rulings by the Supreme Court are ignored. This not merely provides the enemies of the government with all the ammunition they need. It is also demeaning for a country that can reasonably aspire to a role among the leaders of Western civilization.

Too much time has been spent on worrying about the Argentine "image," and too little about the Argentine reality. In the past analysis it matters very little what Miss Derian thinks about the Argentine situation, or whether her remarks were inspired by a genuine concern for the helpless here or by personal malevolence, political bias, or careerist calculation as many will undoubtedly allege. What does matter is that Argentina is, despite much good will and some effort on the part of members of the government, a country that does not yet measure up, as far as human rights are concerned, to the only standards worthy of its stature. It is that, not foreign comment, that should gravely concern everyone.

FOREIGN MINISTRY LAUDS BRAZIL'S GESTURE ON TALKS

PY111348Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 11 Aug 78 PY

[Text] A Foreign Ministry spokesman has said that the remarks made by Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira yesterday were a favorable predisposition of the Brazilian Government to renew the talks on hydroelectric projects, particularly in the Alto Parana.

Responding to reporters, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said that from the Argentine point of view, Silveira's remarks were received as a positive gesture of the Brazilian Government.

Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira told the Brazilian press that relations with Argentina are so important that it is worthwhile to renegotiate and that Brazil can make some sacrifices without going beyond certain limits.

NICARAGUAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES, LAUDS HISTORIC TIES

PY111810Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1255 GMT 11 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 11 Aug--Julio Quintana, the foreign minister of Nicaragua, has stated here that Argentina is one of the countries which has expressed the greatest solidarity toward his own country throughout American history, and reasserted the feeling of brotherhood which guides their governments in their relations. Quintana arrived last night at Ezeiza International Airport where he was met by the Argentine foreign minister, Vice Adm Oscar Antonio Montes.

He was asked whether there was "agreement between the foreign policies of the two countries in addition to mere historical links with Argentina." Quintana stated: "Yes, we agree on some points. I believe Argentina and Nicaragua both belong to this continent 'of hope,' and Argentina is one of the countries which has expressed the greatest solidarity with us throughout American history."

ARMED FORCES TO BEGIN WORK ON COMMON POLITICAL PLAN

PY120254Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0015 GMT 12 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Aug--By the end of this month the secretary generals of the army, navy and air force will begin work on harmonizing the political proposals of their respective commands to prepare what has been called the political proposal of the armed forces, a military source stated tonight. According to a repeated statement by the country's president, this political proposal will be the basis for dialog with members of the various sectors.

The source stated that the secretary generals of the army, Brig Gen Reynaldo Bignone, of the navy, Vice Adm Eduardo Fracassi, and of the air force, Brig Gen Basilio Lami Dozo, decided a few days ago to begin the process for compatibility of the political proposal on 29 August. Once the thinking of the army, the navy and the air force is harmonized, the proposal will be submitted for consideration by the military junta. This could take place by mid-September.

In November 1977 the navy prepared the first document of a political nature entitled "Considerations on the Process for Institutionalization." In March 1978 the army prepared a text entitled "Basis for the Proposal for National Unity." Some weeks ago the air force presented its project called "Political Basis for the National Reorganization." In working toward compatibility, the secretary generals will specifically consider these three documents.

STATE OF SIEGE, SECURITY LAW REPEALED

PY120119Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 11 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpts] The government has repealed three decrees which had been in effect until today. One of them was issued on 21 July 1978, another on 9 November 1974, during President Hugo Banzer's administration, and the last one on 12 March 1973.

Let us give the details. Beginning today the state of siege is no longer valid. It had been decreed for the Bolivian territory on 21 July 1978 due to the events which culminated in Gen Juan Pereda Asbun's assumption of the government. This action was ordered because the reasons for the establishment of the state of siege no longer exist, according to the decree which lifted the state of siege. Consequently, the citizens may enjoy, beginning today, all freedoms leading to the establishment of an atmosphere of fully exercised constitutional rights and guarantees. This is very important. Those going to the interior of the country will no longer need a safe-conduct to travel. Beginning today, they can travel freely, without interference.

Another important decree issued today repealed the decree issued on 1 November 1974 on compulsory civil service, which required citizens' assistance in working toward the social and economic development of the country.

Probably the most important decree approved today is the one anulling the law on state security, a law issued during the administration of the late President Rene Barrientos Ortuno, which is considered too strict. On 12 March 1973 the armed forces government again enforced this law on state security. The government installed in July 1978 now considers that, within the framework of its philosophical principles, there is no reason to continue enforcing this law. The government has decided to implement a plan for national democratization which, according to the decree, implies the commitment to implement institutional changes which may allow Bolivians to freely particpate in the organization and functioning of the powers of the state.

In sum, the cabinet and the government today widened the democratic path even further by repealing three laws which restrained citizens, mainly the working class. The repercussions of these measures will probably be learned in the next few days.

COMMISSION ON ELECTORAL LAWS TO BE ESTABLISHED

PY120207Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Aug 78 PY

[Summary] "Gen Juan Pereda's government will establish a high level commission to change the electoral law, based on which elections will be called within the period announced on 6 August."

Interior Minister Jose Faustino Rico Toro stated that the present electoral law needs to be changed and that the time for a call to elections depends on the work of this commission. He also stated that the government is not intending to extend the 24-month deadline. "He did not want to give dates or the names of the persons who will make up the commission."

He was asked whether the changes will consider the suggestions of political parties, and he stated: [begin recording] I believe that the president will consider the opinion of political parties. I do not see that there is a need to rush and create a situation such as the one we have experienced. I believe that the maturity of the Bolivian people will make them understand that time is not as important as the appropriativeness of the steps taken. [end recording]

Regarding the need to establish a military junta to take care of the next elections, he said: [begin recording] I do not see the need for a military junta. [end recording]

LECHIN OQUENDO ASSAILS REPLY TO MINERS' REQUESTS

PY121346Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Mineworkers leader Juan Lechin Oquendo has termed the reply given by the Mining Corporation of Bolivia [COMIBOL] to the economic proposals made by the workers a provocation of the working class, because the reply does not show any recognition of responsibility for the problems of Bolivian mineworkers.

After having studied the COMIBOL document the labor leader said that it is not an explicit reply, although it unfortunately confirms the incapacity of the callous state bureaucracy.

He announced that the mineworkers may decide to go on nationwide strike at any moment because the terms of the COMIBOL reply do not satisfy even their minimum demands.

Juan Lechin Oquendo also stated that mining equipment has been noticeably missing in some mining centers of the country, particularly at Siglo Veinte. He further remarked that at the same time there is a shortage of staples in various districts of nationalized mining. He concluded by announcing that the Mineworkers Federation of Bolivia will reject the COMIBOL proposal in a communique to be released within the next few hours; it will contain future demands aimed at obtaining salary increases.

AMBASSADOR DISCUSSES STATE OF RELATIONS WITH U.S.

PY111733Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 11 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Carlos Iturralde Ballivian, Bolivian ambassador to the United States, has asserted that Bolivia's diplomatic relations with the United States are perfectly normal and that there are no pending problems.

The diplomat had a brief talk with the newsmen accredited to government palace after having participated in a meeting between ministers and diplomatic representatives of this country.

Iturralde stressed that no new development of any particular interest has occurred since the latest political events in this country and after the U.S. Government decision to continue its normal diplomatic relations with Bolivia.

Regarding the announcement that U.S. military aid to Bolivia will be suspended, he stated that the aid probably will be reviewed and that, in any case, it will be granted in small amounts which will not affect the overall plans of the armed forces of the nation.

BRIEFS

SANTA CRUZ OFFICIALS APPOINTED--The government has appointed Professor (Edwin Cespedes Cosio) prefect of Santa Cruz Department and (Benjamin Roda Daza) director of Santa Cruz customs district. These appointments have put an end to serious disagreements among the factions of the People's Nationalist Union in Santa Cruz, which even led to armed occupation of the customs building by one of the factions. [La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Aug 78 PY]

DIPLOMATIC MESSAGE TO ARGENTINA ON ITAIPU-CORPUS NEGOTIATIONS

PY121535Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 11 Aug 78 p 7 PY

[Text] Itamaraty believes that the last chance to renegotiate the Itaipu-Corpus problem will be lost if the Argentine Government fails to take advantage of the opportunity opened up by means of a diplomatic message which Brazil sent the day before yesterday. The message included a statement made by Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira at the end of a ceremony held at the Foreign Ministry to the effect that Brazil is prepared "to even make some sacrifices to reach an agreement."

Itamaraty experts who have closely followed the lengthy Itaipu-Corpus negotiations, stated that never before had Minister Azeredo da Silveira made "such a clear and positive statement." Some went even further still by stating that "Argentina will fail to understand the message and to give it a positive answer only if it does not want to negotiate."

The position at Itamaraty is that Brazil cannot go beyond "Minister Azeredo da Silveira's statement." The foreign minister's remarks have reached the limit set by prior positions regarding the matter.

Itamaraty received with some surprise the initial reaction of the Argentine Foreign Ministry, which indicated that "there are both positive and negative aspects" in Silveira's statement. The Brazilian Foreign Ministry fails to see what these negative aspects are. They wonder if it could be Silveira's reference to Gen Mariano de Nevares' proposal. The head of the national River Plate Basin commission indicated last week that a 105-meter waterhead could be feasible for Corpus, a remark for which San Martin Palace reprimanded him. However, the Brazilian experts indicated that Silveira mentioned General Neveres' proposal in very general terms.

As of yesterday afternoon, Itamaraty had no official information regarding the rumors circulating in Buenos Aires regarding the resumption of negotiations between Argentina and Paraguay on the pending issue of the Alto Parana hydroelectric dams.

DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT PROPOSES AMENDMENTS TO POLITICAL REFORMS

PY102122Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 9 Aug 78 p 3 PY

[Text] Through its president, Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, the Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDR] has presented two different sets of proposals on the latest government-sponsored political reforms, calling for amnesty, giving constituent powers to the congress to be sworn in next year, reestablishing direct elections at all levels, eliminating the April package, canceling the Falcao law, etc.

The spokesman for the joint committee which is studying the proposed amendments to the original government plan, Senator Jose Sarney, National Renewal Alliance [ARENA] for Maranhao State, feels that "these amendments are very broad, almost equivalent to a new constitution," and to make his point, cited the proposal to transform the national cancer institute into a national cancer foundation.

In the first set of proposals, the MDB suggested 64 changes which would amount to making 100 modifications in the text of the constitution if they were implemented.

The joint commission will also have to examine a proposal signed by Senator Teotonic Vilela, ARENA-Alagoas, and Senator Marcos Freire, MDB-Penambuco, which rejects 11 items in the government's original reform plan. These senators left in only Article 153 of the government plan whereby the death penalty and deportation are abolished, and added the requirement of a two-thirds majority for the approval of constitutional amendments, the date of 17 December for direct elections for all elective offices, including the presidency, the granting of the vote to illiterates, and the reestablishment of the 1967 constitution.

Although he is allowed to request an extension of the deadline to present his views, the spokesman for the government's political reform plan, Senator Sarney, does not intend to take more time and will, in fact, present his views before 27 August, the deadline for the joint committee to study the matter.

Senator Sarney said the MDB should not be reluctant to approve the constitutional amendments doing away with the exceptional acts because such reluctance would place in doubt the sincerity of all the party has ever said. He believes "the MDB should still cooperate to put AI-5 away."

This is the first set of proposals:

1. Allow voluntary retirement with full salaries of men and women working for the government after 30 and 25 years, respectively.

2. Reestablish the principle of job stability for workers in private enterprises.

3. Make the granting of amnesty an exclusive privilege of congress.

4. Make the federal government responsible for a better distribution of income.

5. Have the federal government impose taxes on profits, "even on capital gains."

6. Tax inheritance and legacies of any nature.

7. Have the federal government impose taxes on inherited real estate.

8. Change the system of tax revenue distribution, giving municipalities a larger share.

9. Submit the acquisition of land by foreigners to legal provisions and forbid foreigners or foreign enterprises to own areas larger than 10,000 hectares.

10. Eliminate the government requirement which says that to survive a party must gain 5 percent of total votes in the country and 3 percent of votes in 11 states.

11. Require that a party elect at least four federal deputies in order to survive.

12. Eliminate the requirement that 10 percent of the deputies and 10 percent of the senators are necessary to create a party. Replace this requirement, whereby 42 deputies and 7 senators are necessary, with another requirement making only 20 members of parliament necessary.

13. Demand that the president present decree-laws to congress within 48 hours of their promulgation.

14. Eliminate the article in the government's plan which suspends the mandate of a congressman prosecuted for a crime against national security as soon as the Federal Supreme Court takes his case under advisement. The suspension of his mandate is to be decided by the house of congress to which the congressman belongs.

15. Eliminate the government proposal giving the president authority to decree a state of emergency for 90 days and to renew it for another 90 days. Set the duration of the state of emergency at 5 days.

16. Eliminate the emergency measures whereby the president can suspend constitutional guarantees in confined areas.

17. Limit the duration of the state of siege to 60 days, not 180 days as proposed by the government.

18. Drop the government proposal permitting intervention in class or professional organization under the state of emergency or the state of siege.

19. Implement all reforms as of 15 November 1978.

20. Grant voting rights to the illiterate.

21. Apportion 3 percent of tax revenues to irrigation projects in the northeast region.

22. Add the following article to the constitution: "Military officers and civil service employees who have been dismissed or suspended under the constitutional or complementary acts and later acquitted in a court trial, or who were punished without due process in which they could exercise their rights to self-defense, will be considered as having retired from the posts they held at the time of their dismissal or suspension. For the purpose of this retirement, the time elapsed from the date of punishment through the date of official publication of this amendment will be retroactively counted as service time, excluding capitalization benefits [vantagens patrimoniais].

23. Place all public service personnel under a single legal code.

24. Abolish the Falcao law.

25. Grant retirement with full salary at the age of 70 regardless of service time.

26. Allow Brasilia representation in the Senate.

27. Grant inviolability of congressional mandates in cases of crimes against national security, and reestablish the 1946 regulations.

The Other Group

The second group of amendments--No 25 which is also signed by MDB President Ulysses Guimaraes--includes the following proposals:

1. Modify the powers of the states, the federal district and municipalities regarding the establishment of taxes.

2. Establish the "right to strike, which will be regulated by law."

3. Advocate "free union and professional association in accordance with the law," stating that a union organization can only be intervened in or dissolved by virtue of a judicial order.

4. Establish that the national congress to be installed on 1 February 1979 will have constituent powers during a maximum period of 9 months.

5. Grant amnesty to all those punished under institutional acts since 31 March 1964.

6. Discontinue the appointment of mayors of state capitals, of municipalities which are considered to be of interest to national security, and of municipalities which are rich in hydromineral resources.

7. Modify the criterion for determining minimum wages, which should be set at an amount adequate to meet the needs for food, housing, clothing, health, education, recreation, social security and transportation costs for the breadwinner and for his family.

8. Establish direct elections of governors and vice governors.

9. Eliminate the bionic senator.

10. Establish that "the two houses will jointly set up and maintain the legislative branch's own system of information in the economic, social and cultural sectors."

11. Establish a new system for party funds, which will be proportional to the number of representatives in the national congress.

Big Amendment

This was originally proposed by Senator Teotonio Vilela (Alagoas State), a dissident of the National Renewal Alliance, who prepared it jointly with Senator Marcos Freire (MDB, Pernambuco State). It was later adopted by the MDB and includes the following proposals:

1. To repeal all institutional and complementary acts, and constitutional amendments No 1 (1969), No 7 (1977) and No 8 (1977)--that is, the April package. It reestablishes the 1967 constitution with the following constitutional amendments: No 3 (1972), No 4 (1975), No 5 (1975), No 6 (1976), No 9 (1977), and No 10 (1977).

2. It determines that the national congress to be installed on 1 February will be a constituent assembly.

3. It establishes that direct elections will be held for all posts, including that of president of the republic, on 17 December.

4. It repeals the Falcao law.

5. It grants the right to vote to the illiterate.

6. It grants amnesty.

7. Maintaining the current parties, it allows the formation of new political parties which must obtain 10 percent of the seats in both the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate.

8. It establishes that no member of the national congress could be placed under arrest unless he is caught redhanded committing a crime which does not allow release on bail, nor can he be forced to stand trial before being stripped of his immunity by the appropriate house.

9. In Article 48, it reestablishes the requirement of an absolute majority for the approval of constitutional amendments.

10. In Article 153, it transcribes the government's proposal to repeal both the death sentence and deportation.

11. It proposes a complete revision of Article 152, with five items and six paragraphs. It still advocates the loss of mandate for those who violate this rule to found a new party.

12. It revises the wording of Articles 155, 156, 157, 158 and 159 on the state of siege.

Other Amendments

1. Deputy Antonio Mariz proposed that Paragraph 3 of Article 152 of the government's proposal be amended to read as follows:

"A party which is unable to obtain the percentage of votes established in Item II of the preceding paragraph will not have the right to be represented in congress unless the number of its deputies and senators is at least equal to that established in Item I of the cited paragraph. If the party fails to obtain the right to be represented, those deputies and senators elected under its ticket may join any other party or remain independent."

2. Deputy Rui Codo (MDB, Sao Paulo State) has proposed a broad amendment of Article 148 of the constitution to guarantee the existence of nonpolitical candidates for municipal city councils up to one-fifth of the number of councilmen based on the following principles: the establishment of an equivalent number of seats for party candidates, nonpolitical candidates should not have been affilitated with any party during the 4-year period preceding the municipal election, and they will not be elegible for reelection.

GEISEL EQUATES HUMAN RIGHTS WITH DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS

PY120126Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 11 Aug 78 PY

[Speech by Brazilian President Ernesto Geisel dedicating water-processing plant in Teresina, Piaui State, on 11 August--recorded]

[Excerpt] We are concerned with anything related to Piaui State, such as the efforts made to promote its development in the agriculture, livestock and industrial secotrs, and the exploitation of raw materials which could be done here. We are also concerned with the struggle, especially for prevention purposes, waged against the problems generated by the drought seasons. All this makes a unit which has been called integrated development.

All this is part of something which is much publicized today but which is unfortunately distorted--that is, human rights. The more we build schools and water-processing plants, the more we talk about sewage systems, and about the creation of new industries, the more w feel we are actually defending human rights. [applause]

I believe human rights are not limited to political rights despite those who seek to attack excessive significance to the political aspect. Although it is true that political freedom is essential and is a part of human rights, it is not as essential as many claim. They even want to have political freedom stimulate subversion and undermine our social institutions. We will certainly not allow this to happen.

The revolution was carried out precisely to avoid this. As democrats, we want to develop and to further democracy. We want to preserve it. We want to prevent it from being destroyed for the sake of the spurious license advocated by many.

Human rights are far more important. They are the right to health, to work, to education, to have a family and so forth. This government has been promoting these rights and the future government of Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo will continue to promote them. [applause]

JUDGE REFERS CONTRERAS CASE TO MILITARY COURTS

PY121838Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1747 GMT 12 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 12 Aug--Gen Manuel Contreras, implicated in the Washington killing of former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier, will appear here before a military court, it was revealed today.

Judge Carla Figueroa declared herself incompetent to rule on the case and sent the documents pertaining to the case to the military tribunals, it was reported. Judicial sources indicated that the judge made her decision because of the fact that the accused is a member of the armed forces, whom Chilean criminal courts do not have the competence to try.

PINOCHET DENOUNCES SUIT FILED BY MRS LETELIER, MR MOFFITT

PY121432Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 12 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile--Chilean President Augusto Pinochet has stated that he believes that the suit filed by the relatives of Orlando Letelier and Ronni Moffitt against the Chilean Government is just another way for these people to make trouble. The president made this statement in response to journalists' questions regarding the legal action filed in Washington by Letelier's widow and his secretary's husband.

DEATH OF WITNESS IN LETELIER CASE EXAMINED

PY111500Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1150 GMT 11 Aug 78 PY

[From the "Rafael Pisainer commentary" program]

[Text] Today, or tomorrow at the latest, we will have the results of the autopsy which is being performed in the United States on the body of the exiled Cuban leader who died under unknown circumstances, and who was one of the most important witnesses in the Michael Townley case. As you know, (Juan Pulido), 49, a leader of the Cuban Nationalist Movement, an anti-Castro organization, died apparently from a heart attack as he was getting ready to testify against Townley's version of his activities in the United States in August or September 1976. In his testimony before the U.S. courts, Townley affirmed that he--that is, Townley--had spoken with Cuban exile (Virgilio Bas) and contacted other exiled Cubans to carry out the assault against Orlando Letelier, in which U.S. citizen Ronni Moffitt also died. (Pulido), who died yesterday--as I said, apparently from a heart attack--said he was able to prove that Townley was lying, and that Townley could not have met with the Cuban (Virgilio Bas) nor done the other things Townley said, because he, (Juan Pulido), the man who died yesterday, was meeting elsewhere with the Cubans that Townley is implicating.

With regard to the very timely death of (Juan Pulido), we will not know the truth until today or tomorrow, when the autopsy is completed. As has been said earlier, it is true that (Pulido) had a history of heart trouble. However, it is also true that, because of the case's political implications, the New Jersey coroner wants to conduct a full examination because, as the doctor himself said--quote--we want to be sure he was not given something.

If we had the same ill will which some information media have--especially foreign ones--we would already be speculating on the advantages which the death of Cuban leader (Pulido) offers the U.S. courts. Naturally, we would also be speculating on the disadvantages which this same event offers the Cubans who Townley is accusing.

It could also be said that this is not the first time that the witnesses or protagonists of a case begin to die in little bunches as time goes by. Let us recall the case of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, which even 15 years later is still not solved. In the first place, the alleged murderer, Lee Harvey Oswald, was killed by the owner of a bar, Jack Ruby. A very short while afterward, Ruby himself died, apparently from cancer. A total of 16 persons who had something to do with the Dallas incident on 22 November 1963 have died. This includes a Mr Abraham Zapruder, a storeowner who filmed the presidential motorcade in color as it passed, including the precise moments during which Kennedy received the impact of the bullets which caused his death. Mr Zapruder died. Jack Rudy, who killed alleged murderer Lee Harvey Oswald, died. And we all know what Oswald's fate was. These three persons, in addition to 13 others, died in the most coincidental and strange manners. We hope that in the Townley case, the case concerning the death of exiled Cuban leader (Juan Pulido), we are not witnessing similar events. At least we can hope that this will be cleared up. If this does not happen then these interpretations will be completely valid.

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR SANTO DOMINGO

PY121844Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Enrique Valdez left today for the Dominican Republic. The high Foreign Ministry official will attend the presidential inauguration ceremony in that Central American country, an event which will see the gathering of many dignitaries from other Latin American countries.

The deputy foreign minister was accompanied by his cabinet chief, (Jose Manuel Ovalle), and Ambassador Jorge Valdovinos will join the delegation in Santo Domingo. The ceremonies will last for 3 days, beginning next Tuesday.

It is expected that General Valdez will have informal meetings with foreign officials, and the possibility of a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance is not excluded, since the latter will be present at the inauguration ceremonies for Antonio Guzman, who will replace Joaquin Balaguer as president.

DEFENSE MINISTER TO ATTEND S. KOREAN CEREMONIES

PY121306Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0149 GMT 12 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 11 Aug--Chilean Defense Minister Gen Cesar Raul Benavides confirmed today that he will travel to South Korea next month in response to an invitation from that country.

The cabinet official will stay in Seoul for 5 days to participate in the ceremonies planned for Korean armed forces day on 1 October.

General Benavides will be accompanied by Under Secretary of Defense Col Julio Bravo.

TURBAY SAYS STATE OF SIEGE WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT

PA112233Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2127 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala today discarded the idea of lifting the state of siege soon. He made the statement as he was officially recognized by the top military commands as commander in chief of the Colombian Armed Forces. Turbay, in turn, recognized the new defense minister, Gen Luis Carlos Camacho, and the commanders of the army, navy, air force and police. In a short interview with newsmen, the president said that the state of siege will not be suspended for the time being. For his part, the new defense minister asked for the solidarity of Colombians in view of the historic moment the nation is currently experiencing.

EL ESPECTADOR CALLS TURBAY'S CABINET POLITICAL

PA120324Y Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 9 Aug 78 p 2A PA

["Ocurrencias" column by María Teresa Herran: "And Now it is the Politicians' Turn"]

[Excerpt] It has been a long time since we had a cabinet so markedly political. Eight of its members are congressmen, another was a former congressman and there is another who had presidential aspirations. Turbay has called on some of the most known and reputed representatives of the Liberal and Conservative parties at a time when there is a lack of prestige among those involved in politics. Some of the Conservatives in the cabinet who actively participated in the February and June elections were more effective on that occasion than the personal charisma of the new president. Any novice in analyzing political affairs can easily corroborate this.

The strictly political influence that Turbay has shown in appointing his cabinet members is confirmed by the appointment of a Liberal as government minister and Conservatives to the ministries of Finance, Mines and Energy and Labor. If to this we add the appointment of the former president of the banking association as chief of the National Planning Department, we at least can say that the new president has not gone to the trouble of disguising with leftist demagogery what sector is going to be in charge of the country's economic affairs.

Of course it is too early, besides being absurd, to pass judgment on a government that is just beginning. All we can say is that Turbay is going to display a style entirely different from that displayed before. Besides, for the time being he is not going to have an opposition. This does not mean that there is no opposition, but it is going to find other ways to express itself. This could mean an increase in social and labor tensions. It also could enhance the important role that the independent press can play. If we go by past experiences, it is unhealthy for democracy not to have political opposition. It is up to the present government to prove the contrary. In other words, its efforts should not end in the long run as just another ephemeral honeymoon with partners who are longing to fight one another, and who are longing to seize power more than anything else. A political government and a congress in the bag are two factors which should permit Turbay to obtain without difficulties the approval of important bills for the political state. What are those bills? This is exactly what the people would like to know.

PRACTICE OF NEPOTISM IN GOVERNMENT DENOUNCED

PA112343Y Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 9 Aug 78 p 2A PA

[From the "Dia a Dia" column: "Nepotism Continues"]

[Text] What would it be like if all mayors throughout the country, more than 900, appointed their sons or daughters as secretaries? And for the governors to do the same thing? At least the Bogota mayors have decided to do it. The last two mayors, Luis Prieto and Bernardo Gaitan Mahecha, are examples of this. Will the next one, Duran Dussan, do it?

The practice of appointing relatives to public office if called nepotism. It has been in existence since ancient times when Nepote did this in Rome, thus giving the name to this controversial practice which has always been repudiated by the people.

Imperceptiably, it has become a tradition in Colombia and people no longer realize it. Even the presidency of the republic has set a bad example.

In recent times, President Guillermo Leon Valencia practiced nepotism when he appointed his son secretary. Misael Pastrana Borrero and Carlos Lleras Restrepo discontinued this hateful practice with a dignity which we applaud. Alfonso Lopez Michelsen again practiced it and, unfortunately, Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala prolongs it. Under these circumstances, the figure of two "dauphins" in their change of command ceremony has a depressing outlook.

We denounce the horrible case of nepotism in Tumaco, where 14 relatives of congressman and councilman Alberto Escruceria occupy leadership positions in that mistreated coastal municipality. If things start out this way, with what authority will this familiar tropical practice be disassembled part by part, screw by screw?

New times, new practices, new rulers, new uses: We are carefully bringing these developments to light so they can be pondered and corrected, and so that our budding democracy can be improved regarding both big and small issues.

GOVERNMENT, LABOR SECTOR SEEK UNDERSTANDING

PA111928Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Text] The Colombian Government and labor centrals agreed today to seek a solution to social problems through the policy of dialog and mutual understanding to help less fortunate sectors. The new labor minister, Rodrigo Marin Bernal, and the presidents of the Union of Workers of Colombia [UTC] and the Confederation of Workers of Colombia [CTC], Tulio Cuevas and Manuel Felipe Hurtado, respectively, pointed out emphatically that in accordance with President Turbay Ayala's program, priority must be given to seeking true solutions on social security, unemployment and workers' wages.

At an event in which he presented the labor sector with a lot on which construction of the workers university will start in 30 days, the labor minister asked the UCT and CTC presidents for their determined cooperation to help solve the social problems, which the entire nation is demanding.

NEWS MEDIA OPPOSE CHANGES IN ARMED FORCES PLAN

PA111259Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0132 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 10 Aug (AFP)--A total of 56 newspapers, radio stations and television stations in Guayaquil today asked the government not to allow any more changes to the plan approved by the armed forces for restoring democracy in the country.

News media in Guayaquil issued a communique, which was published on the front page of all newspapers in Guayaquil, on the occasion of Ecuador's national holiday. The communique also requests that the official vote-counting process be carried out with the "speed and impartiality that public opinion is demanding." The communique is referring to the irregularities committed during the first round of voting which forced the Supreme Electoral Tribunal to annul the returns from 178 precincts. Political circles are of the opinion that these irregularities were the result of deliberate sabotage. The communique issued by the news media in Guayaquil says that the people are impatient because they want to know the official result of the first round of the elections.

Liberal Party candidate Raul Clemente Huerta, with 20,000 votes less than Sixto Duran, still believes that he can finish second place, behind Roldos, once the official and final results are known.

AZTRA SUGARMILL WORKERS END STRIKE

PA120332Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Guayaquil--According to a report by the ECUADOREAN PRESS AGENCY, the AZTRA sugarmill workers who have been on strike since Monday ended the strike and returned to work today. Meanwhile, Under Secretary of Labor Antonio (Hidrofo) confirmed an appointment for the worker representatives to meet with Labor Minister Col Jorge Salvador Chiriboga. The decision to end the strike was approved in a general meeting of workers in which the text of the message sent to the under secretary of labor was read. The order for the indefinite strike had been followed by the 2,280 workers who work in AZTRA's cane fields.

POVEDA BURBANO EXTOLS NATION'S POLITICAL PROGRESS

PA111631Y Quito Domestic Service in Spanish 2345 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA

[Speech to nation by Adm Alfredo Poveda Burbano, president of the Ecuadorean Supreme Council of Government, from Quito City Hall on the occasion of independence day--live]

[Excerpts] Ecuador must always be loyal to the democratic and republican principles which inspired the birth of our free and independent life. It must reaffirm more and more every day its support for the cause of peace, justice and progress. As a firmly united political body it must never cease its permanent efforts to promote a fraternal and just international system, constantly respecting the essential values of man and continuing to channel its efforts toward the satisfaction of the aspirations of man.

The armed forces government has been loyal to these principles and has steadfastly worked to achieve these goals. It assumed power because of specific causes and situations and has frankly and honestly worked to find solutions to our nation's problems.

We needed a vigorous push to overcome our underdevelopment. The discovery of petroleum permitted important projects to be undertaken and the proper channeling of this wealth through a positive development policy insured revitalization of the economy and the emergence of new and important production sources.

The element of trust, be it either domestic or foreign, the climate of order and respect for the people and an appropriate and efficient administration of the government have been elements which have insured the nation's progress and welfare.

The Ecuadorean people have seen how the armed forces government promoted growth and development during its administration in all the fundamental sectors of the national economy, in the social, cultural, scientific and technical spheres. We can emphatically say that Ecuador is passing from the situation of being an agro-importer and is becoming an important agro-industrial nation. As a natural result of this it will produce in the near future manufactured products that will increase our volume of exports and at the same time be an effective means of radically reducing unemployment.

In order to achieve these goals the armed forces government implemented an integral and phased transformation and development program, with the necessary investments for the program's implementation. In accordance with that the economic policy of this government has given a powerful impetus to the state and private sector, transferring to the country, within the framework of adequate urban and regional planning, the added value which every project has been able to generate, depending on the economic sector.

The intersectorial and regional economic indicators show that the banking institutions have multiplied their assets. As public intermediaries, the banks will serve as a channel for investiments, and savings have made this possible. The finance companies have showed unusual prosperity, consolidating [as heard] the development bank. Mutual investment companies [mutualismo] offer unlimited growth possibilities due to their operational capacity.

Big and small industry, crafts and trade in general have diversified the demand for labor and services on an expanded scale, contributing with their potential toward reducing unemployment. The stock market and the free system of foreign currency exchange have reached unprecedented levels in Ecuador. Thus, the armed forces government has guided the national economy toward development so that the institutions and the intermediate elements would fulfill their historic role for the sake of social welfare. The entire economic effort to achieve development has been made possible through confidence in the armed forces, both inside and outside the country.

Investments in highways, irrigation, energy, health and especially communications have required increasingly larger national efforts aimed at overcoming the difficult living conditions in the country. The government's work has been aimed at seeking political, economic, social and military solutions, to guide the nation along the route of development and to achieve a greater degree of security for the benefit of the entire Ecuadorean people.

The transformation accomplished in a climate of peace, order, complete harmony, absolute freedom and respect for human dignity has been recognized at home and abroad. The prestige which the country enjoys at all levels is the consequence of government work rife with patriotic intentions, planning and action in line with the desire to serve the country, and this work was carried out seriously, efficiently and adequately. The plan for the state's legal reorganization is a sign that the presence of the armed forces in the government is transitory. The implementation of this plan has guaranteed [words indistinct] and even promoted social mobilization in terms of massive political participation.

We have overlooked the differences which the systematic attacks on the established order produced and the false and slanted rumors which have been distributed by all the media in order to prevent the culmination of the great national democratization process. The apparent political indifference has been replaced by social and popular participation, as in the best times of the republic's history.

On the other hand, the efforts carried out by the armed forces government to promote the strengthening of the political parties has no doubt produced positive results. This [reorganization] plan reveals that a new mentality exists in the military, a military aware of its duties, aware of the role it is playing in the political arena, aware that the time had come to serve the country in another context--the context of constitutional order, the normal organization of the state, the system of government about which the forefathers dreamed. This required that Ecuadoreans be rallied under a single flag of freedom, unity, brotherhood, solidary work, mutual respect and help to others and required that the obligations of each sector and of all citizens toward the country be strictly observed and that citizens' just demands for their rights be respected.

The development and security of Ecuador also require the search for a new concept and reality in the political field. From this stems our proclamation of sincere and just support for the creation of major parties because the weaknesses of the political movements have not permitted the better participation of the people in the handling of state affairs and have taken respectability and effectiveness away from the legislative branch--the soul, nerve and permanent generator of life in the republic.

The legislative branch cannot have its representative power stem from improvisation, from the dissolution of parties, from personalist views or, worse yet, from demagogic activities and attitudes. It must be the result of a serious and conscious choice by structured parties, parties respectable in doctrine and principles, large in the sphere of thought and action, large in the number of fellow citizens united under their emblems and creeds, their hopes and constant faith [as heard].

We have persistently disclosed the objectives of the government and the basis of our action. We have demonstrated seriousness and firmness in political-administrative work, as well as propriety in the implementation of the legal reorganization plan. However, antagonism toward, slander against and apprehensions about the reorganization plan arose and an attempt was made to sow mistrust of the attitude of the armed forces government, in spite of the permanent demonstration that it made concerning the fulfillment of its duty and in spite of the stated objectives which have evidenced the conviction and views rooted in the thinking and heart of the Ecuadorean soldier, who has always wanted to serve his country with honor and love.

Without complaints, reproach or high-sounding words and [words indistinct] the honesty of their procedures, the national government has calmly weighed the most pressing needs. It has tried to solve in a just manner, without delay, the problems which arise in all spheres. It has always given truthful information when the citizens asked. It has honestly adjusted itself to the policies proclaimed and has been faithful to the principles, norms and actions which it has suggested to restore the democratic representative system [word indistinct] in the future life of our country.

The historical times which we are experiencing are of great importance. The country calls for the noble delivery [words indistinct] to the great task of restoring constitutional rule, a stage in which each and every Ecuadorean must profoundly reflect on our responsibilities. [Words indistinct] of the national government and the citizens cannot be but the result of the joint action of the government and the governed.

The accomplishments are very important. But it is necessary [words indistinct] final stage. In this historic endeavor you can rest assured that the national government will fully comply with its duty, will cooperate with determination in the achievement of the events which will conclude with the election of the constitutional president of the republic and will wholeheartedly impede any attempt to sidetrack the course of events of undervalue the freely voiced popular will. It is time, fellow citizens, to end mistrust. It is time to unite our efforts, our hope and (?devotion) around the idea of country. Let us put an end to mistrust in the process of the return to constitutional rule. Let us neutralize the [word indistinct] or unjust campaign against the position of the national government, the organizations in charge of the electoral process or the candidates themselves.

The civic endeavor of 16 July is an event which should fill the Ecuadorean Government and people with pride and satisfaction. [Words indistinct] freedom to vote, protected by the current legal system, the citizens went out with patriotic enthusiasm to choose their own government leaders and to begin a new stage of representative democracy.

The people will, as guaranteed by the government, will have an indivisible and unwavering force. If it is proven that there were irregularities in the first round of the elections, a thorough investigation will be conducted and subsequent action, as set forth in the legal dispositions, will be taken against those responsible, because we will not allow the process and the civic spirit of the Ecuadoreans in particular to become a mockery.

The people trust the integrity, unselfishness and honesty of the procedures followed by those who rule the state, of those who are currently responsible for the electoral process and of the voters, none of whom can play with an action that would cheat the fatherland and respect for the pure and civic attitude of the rest of the citizens. The degrading deceit and corrupt tricks used in such an important civic process would undoubtedly be an attack against public morality and an offense to the national spirit and, consequently, should be punished to the same extent as damage done to the dignity of the fatherland. At this time, and above all, I want to reaffirm the decision of the government of the armed forces to always guarantee the correctness of the electoral process, to firmly amend or redirect whatever is necessary. This is our duty, which must be complied with in order to hold the run-off elections and to turn over power to the constitutional president without unnecessary delays and under the strict vigilance of the sovereign will of the people.

The government of the armed forces will continue meeting its goals and keeping its word because it is aware of its historic commitment and its leadership role. This government, which approved the legal reoganization plan, has always been eager to watch over the country's prestige, both within the country and abroad. The government is not afraid of the country's future because this future belongs to all citizens, without distinctions, because the fatherland has no winners or losers but elements ready to serve it and because its armed forces will always be the guardian of the country's security and freedom and of the full rights of men and their nation.

The clearest example set by the revolution is 10 August 1809 was that of winning freedom, overcoming adversities and sacrifices. It was an intimate expression of the spirit of the Ecuadorean people. Let the ideals of the forefathers of 10 August be the torch that will always guide us to serenely, peacefully and responsibly travel along the road to progress and security, which will strengthen the permanent well-being of our fatherland.

L.A. PARLIAMENT FAVORS SPECIAL IMF PAYMENT TERMS FOR PERU

PA112328Y Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 8 Aug 78 p 3 PA

[Text] The Latin American Parliament has become one of Peru's major defenders by approving Peru's proposal to the IMF in regard to granting special deadlines to the country to pay its foreign debts.

The motion was presented by Andres Townsend Ezcurra, Peruvian representative to the Latin American Parliament, the latest meeting of which took place in Curazao from 3 to 5 August. Townsend said that the Latin American Parliament is aware of the difficulties Peru is currently facing with its foreign debt.

For these reasons, Victor Manzanilla, Latin American Parliament president, asked the International Monetary Fund to grant those deadlines in order to alleviate the pressure of the drastic and difficult conditions imposed by the IMF. In an indirect way, this has affected the economy of the lower income bracket, he said.

Townsend revealed that the Latin American Parliament expressed its satisfaction because Peru is again walking down the road of parliamentary life through the Constituent Assembly.

THOUSANDS OF GOVERNMENT WORKERS REPORTEDLY TO BE FIRED

PA120249Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0241 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 11 Aug (AFP)--The Peruvian Government tonight decided to dismiss thousands of government employees, according to reliable sources. The sources said it is expected that the military government's press service will announce the decree tonight.

DISSENSION SPARKS HEATED ASSEMBLY DEBATE

PY111840Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Aug 78 PY

[Text] The Constituent Assembly began its ordinary sessions yesterday with an oratory marathon in which almost all of the members of the leftwing bloc, some of the Aprista Party of Peru [PAP] and (?one) of the Popular Christian Party [PPC] participate

The leftwing representatives made charges against the revolutionary government, Yankee imperialism, the (?IDB) and the PAP. Hugo Blanco of the Peasant, Student and Workers Popular Front [FOCEP] was compelled by Carlos Roca from PAP to withdraw an offensive remark addressed to the president of the Assembly. [words indistinct] the leftwing representatives to make lengthy statements regarding a preliminary motion submitted by Luis Alberto Sanchez of PAP.

Luis Alberto Sanchez, (?former) president of the multiparty commission, had moved to discuss conflicting articles of the draft internal regulation only after approving those which did not seem to give rise to disagreements.

Article 3 of this draft deals with the goals of the Constituent Assembly and the leftwing representatives have already made two proposals to amend it. They propose that it should be clearly stated that the Constituent Assembly should be converted into the legislative branch, that the cessation of the executive should be decreed, and that all current Peruvian union and economic problems be solved.

One by one the leftwingers charged the majority groups that the preliminary motion was merely a maneuver to delay the solution of the problems of the miners, the national health workers and the workers of (?ICA refinery).

The leftwingers took advantage of the Constituent Assembly to harshly attack the revolutionary government and to report a large number of outrages which according to them the leaders of mining and other unions have to endure. Assembly President Victor Raul Haya de la Torre repeatedly asked them to keep to the issue at hand, which was the preliminary motion. To this the speakers replied that it was an attempt to restrict their freedom of expression and went on the reassert their demand for the solution of labor problems. They indicated that the discussion of the preliminary motion would delay the solution of problems which concern large national sectors [passage indistinct].

[Name indistinct] of the Popular Democratic Union [UDP] indicated that the delaying of the debate of Article 3 of the internal regulations was aimed at protecting the military dictatorship and [word indistinct] democracy.

Avelino Mar Arias of the Socialist Revolutionary Party indicated that the delaying of the debate of Article 3 only served to worsen the situation of the peasants who are currently experiencing the loss of everything gained during the first part of the revolutionary process. Finally the motion to delay the debate of conflictive articles until all others were accepted, was approved 65 votes to 33.

The oratory marathon was unleashed again when the Assembly went to debate Article 2 of the regulations, which deals with disqualification and vacancies among representatives. The members of the leftwing bloc indicated that the word disqualification would allow the government (?and even) the majority block in the Assembly to dismiss or to disqualify the members of the opposition. In this regard the leftwingers resumed their attacks against the government and reiterated their demands regarding the problems of the miners and other sectors.

Victoriano Lazaro Gutierrez of the FOCEP indicated that several members of his party had been threatened when during a tour of various mining centers, they had gone to Cerro de Pasco to ask the workers of CENTROMIN-Peru to join the miners' strike.

Javier Diez Canseco of the UDP indicated that it was very easy to frame the representatives for common crimes to attain political goals.

By midnight the Assembly had approved only 15 articles [words indistinct]. The meeting continued after a short adjournment which took place at 2330.

PRESIDENT MORALES SAYS RADICAL VIEWS THREATEN DEMOCRACY

PA120430Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0329 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 11 Aug (LATIN)--President Francisco Morales Bermudez today said here that the Constituent Assembly is a "bridge to democracy," but that "it can be destroyed" by the radical ideas of the extreme right or the extreme left.

Morales Bermudez said that the right is trying to regain privileges and to place the country in the situation that existed before the 1968 revolution, and that the left, "utopic and sectarian," does not want the democratic path.

President Morales Bermudez said that the radical left "it is only seeking to create chaos in the nation" in order to distort the effort made in the past 10 years by the armed forces.

Without mentioning it, Morales Bermudez was referring to the present state of the labor sector, now that the government is confronted with three strikes, the most important of which is the miners' strike. Well-known Marxist and Trotskist leaders have influence over the miners who on 4 August called a nationwide strike. Two of the major leaders of those groups have legislative immunity as members of the Constituent Assembly.

President Morales Bermudez, 57 years old, spoke during the anniversary ceremony of the army's military legal department. "The Constituent Assembly is a bridge to democracy, but every bridge is a critical point which can be destroyed by radical ideas," he said.

HEALTH WORKERS END STRIKE, OTHERS CONTINUE

PA132106Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1742 GMT 13 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 13 Aug (AFP)--It was reported here today that the 30,000 government health workers who have been on strike for 1 month will go back to work on Monday after accepting the wage increases proposed by the government. Meanwhile, the strikes being staged by 40,000 miners and metallurgy workers and 7,000 southern Peru railroad workers continued today. The workers of the Peruvian state publishing enterprise (Editora-Peru) have agreed to carry out measures of force beginning on Tuesday.

The health workers, who had demanded immediate wage increases of 4,200 soles ($26.20) a month, ended their strike as a result of an agreement with the Health Ministry which establishes that they will receive increases of 1,200 soles beginning this month and another 2,400 soles beginning in December.

There has not been much progress in the negotiations with the miners and metallurgy workers who have been on a general strike since 4 August in demand of a labor amnesty, the reinstatement of dismissed workers and higher wages.

The workers of the southern railroad (Matarani-Cusco with branches to Bolivia and Chile) are in the same situation despite tha fact that their strike, like that of the miners and metallurgy workers, was declared illegal by the Labor Ministry.

The workers of Editora-Peru, an enterprise which comprises the official EL PERUANO gazette, the government newspaper LA CRONICA and the Viru publishing house, are asking for wage increases of 8,000 soles ($50) a month. The four unions of that enterprise announced that if their demands are not met by 15 August, they will mobilize their rank-and-file and use measures of force to pressure for a solution.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH ARGENTINA--Peruvian Foreign Minister Jose de la Puente and Argentine Ambassador to Peru Jorge Ernesto Chevalier exchanged the notes here yesterday whereby Peru and Argentina placed into effect the agreement for scientific and technical cooperation on the peaceful use of airspace. This is part of the baisc scientific and technological cooperation agreement signed by the two countries on 31 May 1974.
[Lima Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1810 GMT 10 Aug 78 PA]

COOLING IN PEREZ, TORRIJOS RELATIONS REPORTED

PA112253Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2106 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 11 Aug (AFP)--The magzine ABC of Caracas affirmed today that the close friendship between Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos has cooled in the past few months. The coolness came about because General Torrijos failed to keep his promise of calling for elections in his country, the magazine explained.

The "private information" weekly noted that Perez gave Venezuela's full support to the new canal treaties signed by Panama and the United States in return for Torrijos' promise to call for elections once the aforementioned treaties were signed.

According to the magazine, "General Torrijos had formally given his word to do so, but the new treaties were signed and there have been no elections," therefore violating a gentleman's agreement and this has upset the Venezuelan president.

COPEI REJECTS PRESIDENTIAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH COLOMBIA

PA130337Y Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 11 Aug 78 pp 1A, 10A PA

[Excerpt] Venezuela's Social Christian Party (COPEI) feels that a favorable climate for reaching an agreement on the Colombian-Venezuelan dispute does not exist at present. COPEI, Venezuela's principal opposition party, rejects the system of direct presidential negotiations which the Colombian and Venezuelan Governments are currently using to resolve the border disagreement between their two countries.

During a special interview for the television newscast "24 Hours," COPEI presidential candidate Luis Herrera said that a proper climate for the agreement does not exist at present. Due to its strong parliamentary position and political influence in Venezuela, COPEI's attitude once again removes the possibilities of achieving a solution in the near future.

Herrera Speaks

The Venezuelan candidate states: "Regarding the so-called dispute on the delimitation of the marine and submarine areas in the gulf of Venezuela, I feel that we have not yet reached a favorable point in the negotiations and that both the Colombian and Venezulan Governments must continue talking and negotiating to achieve a memorable and dignified solution for the entire population so that it will be possible to sign an agreement that has the full approval of the entire population as well as those who determine the conduct of our respective countries without at any time having to worry about the national spirit. [sentence as published]

"The governments of Venezuela and Colombia negotiated this issue during the previous [administrative] period, but during the present constitutional period, negotiations at the ministerial level were replaced by talks at the presidential level. This system is inadequate because there is no higher authority which one can resort to. This is why I believe that a sufficiently favorable climate does not exist for resolving this so-called dispute. During the next administration--over which I will preside here in Venezuela--I intend to have this process of negotiations conducted in a dignified and honorable manner for both sister nations."

129 ELECTORAL CHALLENGES FILED IN RECENT ELECTIONS

PA111436Y Panama City Circuito RPC in Spanish 1220 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Sercano Network]

[Text] The dealine for the presentation of challenges passed yesterday afternoon and several winners in the elections for members of the Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives have announced that they will celebrate their victories today.

According to the electoral tribunal, 129 challenges had been presented before the deadline passed but most of them, almost 70 percent, will be declared void because they do not meet all legal requirements.

Of the total number of challenges, 110 are for the annulment of the elections and 19 concern the proclamation of candidates [as heard]. In the capital district, the Bella Vista corregimiento has been the most controversial and two challenges for the annulment of the elections have been presented.

Challenges Criticized

PA120020Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 10 Aug 78 p 4A PA

[Editorial: "For the Reign of Civility"]

[Text] As can be imagined, after the results of the 6 August elections were learned, some of the losing candidates presented challenges, protests and requests of annulment and carried out a whole range of actions to express their discord. In very few cases have those complaints been based on the sincere belief that some action reduced their chances of victory and instead helped the winning candidates.

Some of the losing candidates for corregimiento representatives are also organizing tumultuous demonstrations which border on public disorders in the hope that these popular expressions will convince the electoral authorities that the candidate who won by virtue of the votes cast does not represent the will of the majority of the community.

We are also seeing and hearing how these discontented persons are flooding newspapers and radio stations asking the top electoral authorities to disregard, through illegal and compliant decisions, the opinion expressed by the people in the only receptacle legally authorized to receive it: the ballot box.

In order to form a calm opinion about this problem of the challenges and similar actions, we have to bear in mind the following points:

In most of the corregimientos, the winning candidates have relative rather than absolute majorities. It is very unlikely that the votes cast for the winning candidate add up to more than the combined total of votes for his other opponents. Therefore it is easy for his united opponents to advance a picture of general repudiation that is not real but only apparent. Besides this, the law only provides those recourses pre-established by it. In no case does the law establish as a recourse of annulment tumultuous demonstrations against the winning candidate.

Some of those who are now trying to accommodate themselves under the electoral laws are members of groups which advocated abstention.

The dissenters of that sector attempted to lose themselves among the multitude of candidates and have now become the Trojan horse within the process. That is why, seeing their hopes thwarted, they are now raising the roof at the wrong time by making charges about circumstances which they accepted from the very beginning up until the final hour of voting. They are protesting only because the votes given to those who won stand like a wall of public opinion against the votes which they wrested by audacity from the unsuspecting masses in their corregimientos.

The elections held in Panama have received well-deserved and significant praise from the rectors of universitirs on the continent. Moreover, there is reason to believe that the judgment of the OAS observers will be equally laudatory. This being the case, there is no justification for the insane desire to discredit [the elections] which is being manifested by certain local sectors that are supporting the actions taken by poor losers against a process in which Panama's prestige is at stake--a prestige which our people have enhanced by the high level of civility demonstrated on 6 August.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS ISSUE COMMUNIQUE ON ELECTIONS

PA120309Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Ricardo Arias Calderon, member of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] consultative committee, today said that the opposition can make mistakes, but it is not foolish. He said this at a news conference held this morning in room A of the Ejecutivo Hotel, where Guillermo Cochez, acting as party spokesman, introduced Jose Salteiro, lifetime member of the PDC's directorate; Clovis Aleman, PDC secretary general; and Ricardo Arias Calderon.

The news conference was held to release a communique on the electoral process which just ended. Cochez said that since PDC did not participate in the elections, it was in no position to discuss its results. Clovis Aleman then read the communique which mentions the fact that on 9 March, PDC had anticipated that the electoral process would not be democratic and that the electoral tribunal would not be able to handle it. This has been confirmed in the serious deficiencies observed in the census of eligible voters and in the inexplicable discrepancies between the census of eligible voters and the registry lists of voters which cannot be explained.

During the news conference, PDC representatives leveled strong accusations at the electoral tribunal. They also submitted a copy of a document asking for the annulment of the elections. This document was signed and submitted to the electoral tribunal by Luis Emilio Veces, who also signed letters addressed to Capt Fernando Quezada and to Aurelio Correa in which he lists a series of irregularities and other actions carried out against the purity of the elections.

In it communique, PDC reiterates that this fraudulent electoral process has worsened the country's institutional crisis, making it necessary, now more than ever, to have a national agreement between the democratic political forces and the National Guard in order to promote a rapid and effective democratization of the country's institutions.

Referring to the possibilities of a national agreement between the democratic political forces and the National Guard, Arias Calderon said that the main problem that had to be solved was the elimination of the tutelar role played by the National Guard over the nation's life. He added that so far, there were no signs that the National Guard wished to discuss this point. This implies, Arias Calderon added, that they expect the opposition to continue playing a game of fools. The opposition can make mistakes, but it is not foolish, Arias Calderon concluded.

EL SALVADOR

GUERRILLA PRISONER SAYS JAPANESE INDUSTRIALIST KILLED

PA1118S1Y San Salvador Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1514 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Distributed by Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Text] Japanese industrialist Fujio Matsumoto, 54, president of INSINCA [Central American Synthetic Industries] was killed on the same day that he was kidnaped, according to the prisoner Augusto Antonio Carranza Parada, a member of the national resistance. Mr Matsumoto was kidnaped on the evening of 17 May of this year as he was leaving the offices of INSINCA, located on the Boulevard de los Heroes. He was kidnaped by a group of youths who later identified themselves as members of the Armed Forces of National Resistance [FARN].

Carranza told the National Guard that Matsumoto died that evening at one of the organization's houses, located on El Cocal Avenue, when the gun belonging to one of the group's members was fired accidentally. His body was taken to one of the cliffs on Cerro (Sancasito), where he was buried hours later.

The prisoner's statement to the National Guard includes the following statements, among others:

That he was arrested because he is one of the organizers of FARN--being a member of the national executive leadership;

That Eduardo Sancho Castaneda, alias Nelson; Berta Ramirez Galan, alias Elvira; Jose Armando Valdes Lovos, a false name, alias Neto; Jose Alberto Ramos Martinez, alias Felipe; and others were arrested with him;

That these people have given substance to the FARN by organizing fronts such as the FAPU, the United Popular Action Front, through which they have directed actions and meetings, strikes and work stoppages and assaults, such as the one on Cartografia in which they obtained 130,000 colones, with which they financed their activities in order to continue their subversive effort designed to take over the political power of the state by overthrowing the legally constituted government;

That after overthrowing the government they were to organize a revolutionary government with the dynamic participation of other extreme leftist groups;

That the FARN has planned and carried out kidnapings such as those of Dr Mariano Castro Magana, Dr Carlos Emilio Alvarez, Victor Safie and, lately, Fujio Matsumoto;

That Matsumoto was killed on the day of his kidnaping as he was being taken from the vehicle in which he had been driven to house No 14, El Cocal Avenue, Manzano District, when a 45-calibre pistol being carried by one of the guerrilla leaders, whose alias is Neto, went off accidentally;

That later the guerrillas were obliged to bury Matsumoto on one of the cliffs of Cerro (Sancasito) early in the morning;

That it was decided that they would still demand a ransom of 10 million colones from the Japanese businessman's company.

Testimony Denied

PA122207Y San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1720 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] The textile firm Central American Synthetic Industries [INSINCA], of which the kidnaped Japanese industrialist Fujio Matsumoto is still president, has offered a reward for any truthful information leading to the discovery of the businessman's whereabouts. Matusumoto was kidnaped on 17 May of this year by persons who said they belong to the Armed Forces of National Resistance [FARN], a rightwing clandestine group which has been active in the country for some 7 years. According to the extrajudicial testimony of Augusto Antonio Carranza Parada, which he completely renounced at the first criminal court of San Salvador, except for acknowledging that he is a trade unionist, Matsumoto was accidentally killed the same day he was kidnaped and was buried at San Antonio hill, located in the capital's Southeast. However, this version has not been confirmed by the security corps or Matsumoto's family. Therefore, the mystery remains unsolved.

UNIDENTIFIED GROUP KIDNAPS INDUSTRIALIST-COFFEE GROWER

PA111519Y San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1220 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Several persons dressed in white and driving a yellow jeep, whose license plate has not been traced, kidnaped Armando Monedero Barreiro at about 1800 yesterday. At the time of the kidnaping, Monedero Barreiro was at home in the city of Santa Ana, 65 km from San Salvador.

According to our sources, Monedero did not offer any resistance but his driver, who did, was shot. He died a few minutes later, before reaching the social security hospital.

Armando Monedero Barreiro is one of the best-known coffee producers and industrialists in the west. He is particularly well-known in the political arena because he has held the post of municipal mayor as well as several other government posts. In the area of sports he is also a well-known personality, not only in El Salvador but in the rest of Central America as well. At present he is president of the FAS [expansion unknown] team directorate. The team is the undefeated national football champion and holds first place in the current tournament.

Monedero's kidnapers did not leave behind any [word indistinct] or pamphlets to indicate the reasons for the kidnaping or the name of the clandestine group to which they belong. Until this morning the media had not been contacted by any leftwing or rightwing group claiming credit for the kidnaping.

GUATEMALA

GUATEMALA CITY BUS STRIKE ENDS; FARE UNCHANGED

PA132311Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2211 GMT 13 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 13 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The Guatemala City bus drivers' strike, which disrupted the city's activities for 3 days, ended today, Sunday.

Bus transportation resumed partially this morning after the bus owners agreed to pay the drivers a daily wage of $5.13, as recommended by the Labor Ministry. The drivers agreed to completely normalize bus service by tomorrow, Monday, after 35 of the drivers dismissed during the strike are rehired.

Initially, the bus drivers demanded $10 a day but scaled their demands down during the negotiations. The private bus owners also agreed to the bus drivers' request not to increase the fare to 10 cents. Therefore, the bus fare will remain at 5 cents, as it has for the past 30 years. The bus owners' acceptance of the demands prevented Guatemala City Mayor Col Abundio Maldonado from intervening in the bus transporation system in order to put it back in service.

HONDURAS

TRANSFERS IN MAJOR MILITARY UNITS CONFIRMED

PA121931Y El Progreso Radio Progreso in Spanish 1230 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Some of the changes in three of the main military units were confirmed yesterday by Lt Col Efrain Gonzalez Munoz during a conversation with reporters from Tegucigalpa newspapers. Based on the information given by Gonzalez, the commander of the 2d Military Region [region] based in San Pedro Sula will be Lt Col Gustavo Alvarez, formerly commander of the 4th Infantry Battalion in La Ceiba. Lt Col Ruben Montoya, who is currently at the 7th Battalion, would be transferred to the headquarters of the military unit in La Ceiba. Lt Col Jose (Avenido Bueiso) will be transferred to the 3rd Military Region [zona] in Copan.

JUNTA ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON MELGAR CASTRO RESIGNATION

PA121500Y Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1220 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[SERJANO Network]

[Text] As a result of international reports on the dismissal of Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro, who resigned from his post as chief of state of the Republic of Honduras and was neither dismissed nor removed from his post, the military leadership of the country, the military government junta, yesterday evening issued an urgent official communique. The following is a text of that communique:

In view of the reckless and slanderous reports that have been published in some foreign news media, in view of the fact that these reports have been partially reproduced by national news organs and in view of the fact that these reports are an attempt to question the honor, stature and untarnished personal conduct of former chief of state Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro, this press office, with full authority of the honorable military government junta, categorically declares that:

1. It strongly rejects the slanderous charges that have been made against former chief of state and distinguished member of the armed forces of Honduras, Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro.

2. Any capricious distortion of General Melgar Castro's resignation from the post to which he had been expressly assigned by the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, or of the emergence of the honorable military government junta as responsible for the executive functions of the state, must be interpreted as a serious offense against the prestige of the armed forces and the dignity of the republic.

Tegucigalpa, Central District, 11 August 1978

Press Office of the Military Government Junta, Republic of Honduras

NICARAGUA

PRESIDENT SOMOZA RETURNS FROM U.S. VISIT

PA112133Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1630 GMT 11 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 11 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--After a 4-day visit to the United States, Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza returned yesterday, Thursday, on board the presidential plane "Nicarao." During his absence, General Somoza reportedly visited the state of Arkansas. The purpose of the trip has not yet been disclosed. Each time General Somoza travels abroad he receives congressional approval valid for 3 months. While out of the country he retains his presidential powers.

30 ARMY COMMANDERS DISMISSED; KEY PERSONS CONFIRMED

PA120214Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0152 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 11 Aug (AFP)--It was officially announced that 30 of the 35 principal Nicaraguan army commanders were dismissed from their posts today by President Anastasio Somoza. Although the president's unexpected action was viewed by political circles as an "effort to prevent new bloody clashes between the military and civilians," the opposition expressed its dissatisfaction with the confirmation of Jose Somoza, his brother, and Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero, his son, in their respective posts. His brother is commander of an armored battalion in Managua and his son is commander of the infantry basic training school of Nicaragua.

The dismissed high-ranking military chiefs--in what has been described here as a "purge"--include Col Alesio Gutierrez, Managua police commander, and Col Rafael Lau, commander of the southern department of Carazo. The two officers have been accused of using "excessive force" in dealing with the civilian protests which have intensified since the beginning of this year.

Further Details

PA122142Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1650 GMT 12 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 12 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--After meeting yesterday with them at the presidential palace, Nicaraguan President Gen Anastasio Somoza confirmed most of the present army commanders in their posts. The National Guard's general staff, whose chief is Gen Armando Fernandez, remained the same. The only significant change occurred in the special general staff, where Col Nicolas Valle Salinas was appointed as new commander of Managua's police.

Maj Gen Jose R. Somoza, the president's brother, was confirmed in the posts of inspector general of the army and commander of the First Armored Presidential Battalion. President Somoza ordered several less important changes among commanders in the country's interior.

SOMOZA REJECTS CLERGYMEN'S CALL TO LEAVE OFFICE

PA132308Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2049 GMT 13 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 13 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--"Neither Somoza nor the Liberal Party will leave power." This is the answer that General Anastasio Somoza gave here today to the message which the archbishop and his clergymen addressed to him on 4 August.

In that message Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo and the 11 priests who form his ecclesiastic council referred to the violent clashes between the government and the opposition and noted that "the ruler, in a situation of mutual concessions, could encourage through his retirement the formation of a national government supported by the majority of the people that would promote practical solutions to the crisis."

There had been speculation about what the presidential answer would be to this "extraordinary invitation" which reflects the demands that the various groups opposed to General Somoza have been making since the assassination in January of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, an opposition leader and editor of the daily LA PRENSA.

Speaking at a meeting of district coordinators and leaders of the Nationalist Liberal Party (PLN) held at the Polideportivo Espana Gymnasium, the chief of state warned: "We have a powerful party, the backing of a people who love peace, an army that is a model of loyalty and the firm will to act in an atmosphere of peace and without violating the constitution."

The Nicaraguan president said that those who are asking for his resignation are "new groups which are attempting to violate the constitution of the republic." He added that "no one will impose this violation on Nicaragua since the constitution is the basis of the Liberal Party, the party of the majority, which has decided to forge its own destiny."

Without referring directly to the archbishop or to his clerical advisers, Somoza pointed out that the way out of the violence in the country is an "orderly development of democracy" by means of an electoral struggle. He recalled that the Liberal Party, which he also presides over, attained power after the bloody 1927 revolution, which took many lives but which "sealed respect for the vote" and over the years in power attained "the social, political and economic transformation of the country." He said that there is no room in the solution of "our problems for people who use subversion and who together with other opposition groups have never voted in order to give their democratic opinion."

The 3,000 delegates interrupted the head of state with chants of "Somoza yes, others no" and "You are not leaving, you will stay," while he explained to them that they represented 180,000 Liberal votes in Managua. After affirming that his health has never been better, Somoza said in a vigorous voice: "We will test ourselves at the polls to see who has the majority, the Liberal Party or its opponents. Let them take to their families and fellow supporters the message that neither Somoza nor the party are giving up power. I announce to them today that we have initiated the electoral struggle to have our candidates elected in the 1981 elections."

The president told those who promote violence against his government and those who support him that "we are not going to continue permitting the freedoms which we established and guarantee for every Nicaraguan to be abused and we will not sit idly by while we are being attacked. We are going to fight," he said. Nevertheless, he recommended to the members of his party that they turn their backs on violence and communism and announced the convocation of a great Liberal convention for 1 April 1979 to organize the party internally.

Meanwhile, in Chinandega, 150 km to the west, the opposition Group of 12 spoke to a rally of approximately 8,000 persons, who gave their support to the message of the archbishop and his clergy and insisted that the "only peaceful solution to the country's political and social crisis lies in Somoza's resignation."

AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S HUMAN RIGHTS STATEMENTS CITED

FL121805Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Aug 78 FL

[Text] Andrew Young, U.S. permanent representative before the United Nations, has acknowledged that the position of the Washington administration with respect to the signing of international treaties on human rights continues to be unsatisfactory. A commentary of the Soviet news agency TASS on Young's statements stresses that once more it is demonstrated that the United States has no moral or juridical right to assume the role of world defender of human rights.

In his statements the U.S. representative before the United Nations recognized that the North American congress refuses to ratify key international accords on the rights of man. Young added that this is especially painful on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the UN proclamation of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. He stressed that the United States has not yet ratified the agreement on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly 30 years ago. Another agreement not yet being enforced in the United States is the one on the liquidation of all forms of racial discrimination.

The United States was not present at the recently concluded meeting of the UN committee on human rights, during which the preparation of an international accord on civic and political rights was discussed. The Washington administration does not want to adhere to a pact which stipulates the concession of guaranteees for the freedom of conscience, expression, press and meeting women's rights and forbidding torture and arbitrary arrests.

Of the existing 40 treaties on human rights the United States has only ratified 10. While the North American leaders release pompous statements on respect for human rights, in the United States itself they are brutally trampled on and the Washington administration lends its support to regimes which least respect those rights.

GDR's weekly (HORIZONS) has reported that the South African racist regime consolidated its position as a military power in Africa with the aid of several developed capitalist countries, despite the arms embargo ordered by the United Nations. It pointed out that the United States, Great Britain, France, the FRG and Israel are among the countries which in recent years have provided great quantities of arms to the apartheid regime. It added that these supplies made it possible for the Pretoria racist army to double the number of armored vehicles, reinforce its artillery, introduce in the area ground-to-air and antitank missiles and strengthen its navy with submarines, frigates and launches. The GDR publication denounced that the number of South African combat aircraft has been increased to 315 and, in the nuclear sphere, the FRG has invested 12,000 marks.

MALMIERCA'S PRESS CONFERENCE IN BUDAPEST REPORTED

FL111110Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1104 GMT 11 Aug 78 FL

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has declared that the forthcoming nonalined countries summit conference in Havana will be quite useful for the struggle against imperialism, annexationism and survival of colonial domination.

At a news conference in Budapest, Hungary, the Cuban foreign minister told the press that the summit also will help to promote the struggle against neocolonialism, racism, Zionism and apartheid.

Malmierca added that the nonalined summit conference should also stimulate the struggle to establish a new international economic order and to maintain peace and security in the world. The PCC Central Committee member said that the ministerial level meeting held in Belgrade demonstrated the movement's capability for facing and defeating the divisionist attempts on the part of reaction and imperialism.

In his statements to the press in Budapest, Isidoro Malmierca noted that Cuban doctors, teachers, construction workers and specialists in various fields have worked in African countries for 15 years. Our cooperation, Malmierca emphasized, always has been directed toward fulfillment of the Organization of African Unity Charter and we have responded to the sovereign and legitimate requests of legally established governments.

The Cuban foreign minister stressed that the problems which should concern the world's peoples and governments include the threats and economic acts of aggression by the Chinese leaders against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. He urged solidarity with the latter country.

Malmierca and his entourage yesterday attended a reception given by the Cuban Embassy in Hungary. The foreign minister of the fraternal country, Frigyes Puja, and officials of the Hungarian party and government attended the reception.

Further Reportage

For Budapest MTI and domestic radio coverage of Foreign Minister Malmierca's press conference at the conclusion of his talks in Budapest, see Hungarian section of 11 August Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

USSR'S KUZNETSOV STOPS IN HAVANA ON RETURN FROM BOGOTA

FL111123Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1111 GMT 11 Aug 78 FL

[Text] Vasiliy Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has made a stopover in Havana en route from Colombia. The Soviet leader, who later continued on his trip to Moscow, attended the inauguration of new President Guillermo Turbay Ayala in Bogota.

Kuznetsov and his official delegation were received in Cuba by Raul Roa Garcia, member of the PCC Central Committee and Council of State and vice president of the People's Government National Assembly; USSR Ambassador to Cuba Nikita Tolubeyev; Lourdes Urrutia, director of the People's Government National Assembly International Relations Department; and other Cuban and Soviet officials.

GUYANA

CATHOLIC LEADER DISCUSSES TALENT EXODUS NEWSPAPER DIFFICULTIES

FL111510Y Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 5 Aug 78 p 1 FL

[Excerpts] There is an exodus from Guyana of many people in responsible positions, the Roman Catholic vicar-general of Georgetown, the Rev. Andrew Morrision, said yesterday.

And in an interview with the ADVOCATE-NEWS he called on all people in the Caribbean who love freedom of expression to support the CATHOLIC STANDARD, a newspaper published by the Roman Catholic Church there.

The STANDARD has been very outspoken against the policies of the Forbes Burnham government, especially during campaigning for the controversial July 10 referendum.

The STANDARD was among a number of organisations and institutions calling for a boycott of the referendum, which was to pave the way for government to set up a constitutional assembly to draft a new constitution.

Previously the STANDARD was published by the government-owned Guyana national news-papers limted, which has an almost monopoly on the news-print which is imported into Guyana by a government agency.

But following the referendum disagreement the STANDARD was asked to find new printers.

Mr. Morrison said that there are only a few small publishiers in Guyana and these where being gradually pushed out of the market.

The new Guyana company of the opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP), which publishes the "MIRROR," is unable to publish the STANDARD because it has a newsprint problem.

As a result the STANDARD now appears as a small four-page paper, a drastic drop from its eight pages of normal tabloid size. Mr. Morrison said that there was a need for an independent voice like the STANDARD as government owns the media in Guyana.
He add
He added: "At the moment there is a dearth of information in Guyana. Many things happen that don't reach the press."

And there have been co laints of distortion and bias reporting by the government media, he said.

Mr. Morrison said that the CATHOLIC STANDARD was out spoken and felt that as general elections drew near it should be even more outspoken so that the electoral frauds which took place in the last two elections would not reoccur.

"We try to give news as balanced and correct as possible," he said.

Mr. Morrison, who will be on vacation in Barbados until August 13, said that the mood in Guyana was one of malaise and was unsettling.

"We have to face a bleak future and I haven't got a feeling the people are working together to face that future," he said.

He also said that there was a feeling of apprehension.

Mr. Morrison said that there was "fear of victimisation, of losing jobs, and of expressing opinions different from government's."

He said that this is so because government is responsible for 80 per cent of the jobs in Guyana.

As a result the exodus from Guyana which was there in the past "has continued and accelerated as the people do not see any future (in the country) and are leaving."

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

PULICATIONS BAN LIFTED BY GOVERNMENT

FL111505Y Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 5 Aug 78 pp 1, 3 FL

[Excerpt] Government has adopted a liberal policy by removing all politically-oriented leftwing and communist literature from the list of publications banned in Trinidad and Tobago.

The open-house move on political literature, branded as "subversive" since 1967, removes restrictions on a wide range of internationally known publications.

These include:

#QUOTATIONS FROM CHAIRMAN MAO TSE TUNG--popularly known as the little red book--published in Red China.

#WORLD MARXIST REVIEW, the MARXIST QUARTERLY, CHINA RECONSTFUCTS, CHINESE LITERATURE, PEKING REVIEW and DEMOCRATIC JOURNALIST, MARXISM TODAY.

#GRANMA newspaper (organ of Cuba Communist Party); the LONDON MORNING STAR (formerly DAILY WORKER) and GUYANA INFORMATION BULLETIN, published by the opposition People's Progressive Party.

Announcement of the change-of-heart policy was made in the House of Representatives yesterday by Minister of National Security Senator John Donaldson.

He said that the cabinet decision was taken following a meeting on Wednesday with Prime Minister Dr. Eric Williams, attended by him along with Attorney General Senator Selwyn Richardson; Rep. Errol Mahabir, minister of petroleum and mines; and Rep. Overand Padmore, minister in the Ministry of Finance.

Cabinet agreed that:

#Publications previously banned on the basis of political criteria be immediately taken off the list of banned publications.

#Publications banned on other grounds should be reviewed.

#Establishment of a review committee to consider the overall situation and advise government on whether or not, or on what basis, there should be any censorship of publications.

#Members of the committee comprise mainly academics with advisers to be available for purely technical matters. A government official explained that "other banned publications" involved mainly pornographic and sex-laced photographs, books and magazines. Publications that had been placed on the banned list also included official releases from the Russian news agency TASS; NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY and news from HSINHUA NEWS AGENCY.

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